

In the Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A base for wireless connection of terminals to a communications network, said base including transmit/receive means adapted to exchange information with a remote terminal also provided with transmit/receive means, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmit/receive means of the base include a transmitter including an extended infrared light source.

2. (Currently amended) An optical base according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitter of the base is adapted to transmit information to a remote terminal at a high bit rate.

3. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 1, further comprising either ~~preceding claim, characterized in that it includes~~ source position control means for obtaining optimum alignment of the source and the transmit/receive means of a terminal located in the coverage area of the base.

4. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 1, any one of claims 1 to 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the extended infrared source includes laser emitter means and transmission diffuser means for diffusing radiation emitted by the laser emitter means.

5. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmission diffuser means are of the holographic type.

6. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1 to 3,~~
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the extended infrared source includes laser emitter means and
reflector means for diffusing radiation emitted by the laser emitter means.

7. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 1, ~~any preceding claim,~~
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmit/receive means of the base include an omnidirectional
receiver.

8. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 7, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein
the omnidirectional receiver includes at least an omnidirectional concentrator.

9. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein
the omnidirectional concentrator is hemispherical and includes an optical filter.

10. (Currently amended) A base according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein
the omnidirectional concentrator has been subjected to an anti-reflection surface treatment.

11. (Currently amended) A method of wireless communication between a base for
connection to a communications network and a remote terminal, said base including
transmit/receive means adapted to exchange information with said terminal, which is also
provided with transmit/receive means, ~~which~~ wherein the method comprises transmitting
information with ~~is characterized in that~~ the transmit/receive means of the base ~~transmit~~

~~information~~ to said terminal by means of a transmitter including an extended infrared light source.

12. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein information is transmitted from the base to said terminal over an infrared link having a line of sight that is direct, non-direct, or hybrid.

13. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein ~~or claim 12~~ ~~characterized in that~~ the transmit/receive means of said terminal transmit information to the base over an infrared link having a line of sight that is direct or non-direct.

14. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 11, wherein the ~~any one of~~ ~~claims 11 to 13, characterized in~~ information is transmitted between said terminal and the base in burst mode.